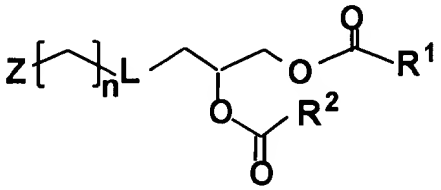
Amendments to the Claims:

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended:

1. (Currently Amended) A liposome composition comprising:

a lipid having the formula



wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is an alkyl or alkenyl chain having between about 8 to about 24 carbon atoms;

n = ~~1~~ 0-20;

L is selected from the group consisting of (i) -X-(C=O)-Y-~~CH_2~~-, (ii) -X-(C=O)-, and (iii) -X-CH_2-, wherein X and Y are independently selected from oxygen, NH, and a direct bond;

Z is a weakly basic moiety that has a pK of less than about 7.4 and greater than about 4.0.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein X is NH and Y is oxygen.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein L is a carbamate linkage, an ester linkage or a carbonate linkage.

4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein L is NH-(C=O)-O-~~CH_2~~.

5. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein Z is an imidazole.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 1, comprising between about 1 to about 80 mole percent of the lipid.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein Z is a moiety having a pK value between about 5.0 to about 6.5.

8. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is an unbranched alkyl or alkenyl chain having between about 8 to about 24 carbon atoms.

9. (Original) The composition of claim 8, wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is $C_{17}H_{35}$.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein n is between 1-10.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a therapeutic compound entrapped in the liposomes.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 11, wherein the therapeutic agent is a nucleic acid.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12, wherein the nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA, and their complements.

14. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a ligand for targeting the liposomes to a target site.

15. (Original) The composition of claim 14, wherein the ligand has binding affinity for endothelial tumor cells and is internalized by the cells.

16. (Original) The composition of claim 15, wherein the ligand is selected from the group consisting of E-selectin, Her-2 and FGF.

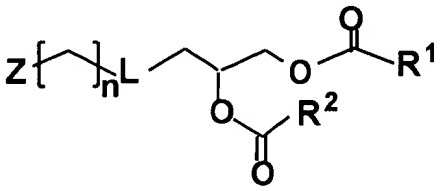
17. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said liposomes further comprise between about 5 to about 20 mole percent of a vesicle-forming lipid derivatized with a hydrophilic polymer chain.

18. (Original) The composition of claim 17, wherein the hydrophilic polymer chain is polyethyleneglycol (PEG).

19.-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a therapeutic agent to a subject, comprising:

preparing liposomes comprising a lipid having the formula



wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is an alkyl or alkenyl chain having between about 8 to about 24 carbon atoms;

n = ~~1~~ 0-20;

L is selected from the group consisting of (i) -X-(C=O)-Y-~~CH_2~~-, (ii) -X-(C=O)-, and (iii) -X-CH_2-, wherein X and Y are independently selected from oxygen, NH, and a direct bond;

Z is a weakly basic moiety that has a pK of less than about 7.4 and greater than about 4.0; and

administering the liposomes to the subject.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the preparing comprises entrapping a nucleic acid in the liposomes.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the nucleic acid is DNA, RNA, or their complements.

33. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the preparing further comprises entrapping a protein or a protein fragment in the liposomes.